

St. George Orthodox Church

5191 Lennon Road • Flint, MI 48507 • (810) 732-0720

Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Father Michael Bassett, Assistant

March 5, 2023

MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH

Christ is in our Midst!

He is and ever shall be!

Antiochian Women's Month Greeters/Ushers:

Amal Abuaita, Lucy Abuaita, Mary Khoury, and Marlen Odeh

Welcome to St. George! Thank you for attending today's Divine Services. If you are a first-time visitor, please register your visit by completing the guest book located in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you after liturgy, so feel free to join us during Coffee Fellowship! Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word "*Liturgy*" means *work of the people* that means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God's grace to enter. We believe Holy Communion to be a sign that in Christ we have all things in common, share an identical faith, and are united fully to the Orthodox Church. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith are encouraged to speak with one of our clergy. Holy Communion can be given to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting (no food or drink from midnight the night before), the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, and being at peace with others. Everyone else, including visitors, are invited to receive the final blessing of the priest and Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. Again, welcome!

Live Streaming of Divine Services

St. George is open for all parishioners and visitors. If you cannot attend, please pray with us through our livestream which can be seen on our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintGeorgeOrthodoxChurchFlintMI>

If you have a smart TV, you actually have a web browser and YouTube app built in. All you have to do is start the browser app for YouTube and put the link in the address bar.

Antiochian Women's Month

Epistle Reader: **Manal Abuaita** (Arabic) and **Janet Abueita** (English)

Holy Bread Offerings (Oblations)

- Zahra, Walid, Wael, and Mirvat Hayek, Jackleen David and their families for the health of their families and in loving memory of cousin **Riyad** Hayek (3 day).
- Anwar Abueita for the health of his family especially children and grandchildren and wife **Janet** on the occasion of her birthday ~ *May God grant her many years!*
- We also pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Iskandar** Farah (+February 9th, brother of Salim), **Farid** Nassar Nassar (+February 15th, Lansing, nephew of Karim Nassar), and **Angelo** Bastounis (+February 26th, friend of parishioners).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners and their friends who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Fr. Angelo** Artemas (friend of Fr. Joe), **Sahar** Abdallah, **Reader Fouad** Abuaita, **Shafiq** Abuaitah, **George** and **Georgette** Abueita and **Kristo** (brother, mother, and friend of Anwar), **Laila** Abud, **Jane** Abueita, **Youssif** Abousamra, **Danial** Alghanim (father of Dania Hanna), **William** Alsahouri, **Sanaa** Alqassis (daughter of Zahra Abuaita), **Walid** Andoni (brother of Vera Daoud), **Sharon** Ballreich (sister of Nancy Silpoch and Deborah Salim), **Levi** Cooper, **Vera** Daoud, **Valland** Frangi (sister of Ron Haddad), **Elias** Gantos, **Denise** Ghattas, **Phyllis** Good, **Ronald** Haddad, **Nadia** Ibrahim (mother of Ziyad), **Daisy** Isaac, **Loretta** Karpelenia (mother of Denise Ghattas), **Michael** Khal, **Antonia** Molina and **Reuben** Reyes (friends of Areen Bathish), **Laura** Nassar, **Deborah** Salim, **Elaine** Shaheen, **Michael** Silpoch, **Kameel** Srouji (son-in-law of Hiam Bathish), **Laura** Teunion-Smith (granddaughter of Bob Teunion), **Christa** Whitehead, and **Samantha** Zerka (cousin of Lauren Zerka/Goddaughter & niece of Victoria Zerka); **Ghassan**, **Jasanta**, and newborn **Luciana** Al-Khoury (February 4th).
- We also pray for our expectant parents: **Rania** and **Raed** AbuAita, **Jessica** and **Mejhdy** Abu Aitah, **Katrina** and **Gary** Gagne, **Aziza** and **Basheer** Hawwash, **Narmeen** and **Deeb** Shamshoum, and **Taylor** and **Jeffrey** Tipton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Anwar Abueita*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: April 23rd ~ sign-up poster and hosting information is in the Lounge. *Hosting includes bringing whatever you wish to serve, setting up, and cleaning up afterwards.* St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$30. **For more information**, contact our coordinator Manal Abuaita. *During the Great Fast (February 27th - April 15th), no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, or their by-products are served.*

EARTHQUAKE APPEAL Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who donated to the suffering people in Syria and Turkey. We sent \$3,229 from your generosity to help ~ THANK YOU!



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS at 2AM next Sunday, March 12th. Before going to bed this Saturday, remember to set your clocks AHEAD ("spring forward") one hour.

IT'S COMING!

The excitement is building, can you feel it? The renovation of our Banquet Center is moving along and looks so different; like brand new! To celebrate the end of the renovation, we are having a **Banquet Center Renovation Grand Opening Gala** on Friday, May 12th (during the 40 day Paschal season, we do not need to fast!). Information is on the Narthex Table and online at our St. George Website (saintgeorgeflint.org) ~ you can also purchase tickets online on our website at this same link. Tickets are also available from any of our Gala Committee members: *Raghad Farah, Tony Daoud, Aida Nassar, Areen Bathish* or in our church office. For more information about being a sponsor, please speak with one of our committee members.

▶▶ We are looking for major sponsors / benefactors. Our committee is dedicated to raise as much funds as possible to start paying off our \$450,000 loan. This is our house and we need everyone to step up, especially those who are capable! Please look at the sponsorship levels and be one of our benefactors with a sacrificial offering. Over 50 years ago, our St. George ancestors stepped up to build our beautiful church and complex at a cost just under \$1,000,000 (in today's dollars, \$7,872,599)! They did it because of their love of God, the love of their children, and the love of all future generations...yes, US!

Now is the time for us to show our love of God, our children, and future generations. Be a part of this major event. If you haven't seen the progress of the renovation, see Tony Daoud on Sundays for a glimpse! I'm excited and you should be too! May God continue to bless our St. George Family and enable us to produce fruit like those who built our church in 1971 did!



Our stewardship, offerings, and donations are needed. PLEASE help your parish by continuing to offer your gifts! If you cannot come to church, you can simply go to our parish website (<https://saintgeorgeflint.org/>) and donate on-line (or use the QR code to the left) or you can bring or mail your offerings to St. George, 5191 Lennon Road, Flint, MI 48507. As always, THANK YOU for your generosity and love of our St. George!

COMING EVENTS

Fasting Discipline The *Great Fast* began on February 27th and continues until our celebration of **Pascha: our Lord's Resurrection** on April 16th. The traditional fasting discipline (*no meat, poultry, dairy, eggs, fish, wine, olive oil, and their by-products*) is observed on all weekdays; on Saturdays and Sundays, *wine and olive oil* are allowed.

Monday **Great Compline** صلاة النوم الكبرى 6pm

Wednesday **Lenten Hours** at St. Nicholas 10:30am

Combined Pan-Orthodox **Presanctified Liturgy** & القداس السابق تقد يسه

Lenten Refreshments at St. Mary Magdalene 2439 S. Long Lake Road, Fenton 6pm

Friday **Little Compline and Akathist to the Virgin Mary** خدمة المديح (Madayeh) 6pm

Saturday **Great Vespers and Confessions** 4pm

From the Synaxarion (summary of feast)

On the First Sunday of the Fast, we make remembrance of the restoration of the holy and venerable Icons, which took place through the ever-memorable Royal family of Constantinople, Michael and his mother, Theodora, during the time of the Patriarch Saint Methodios the Confessor.

Verses

I rejoice, as I see them fittingly reverence

The icons formerly unfittingly banished.

This restoration was accomplished in the year 843AD (they were banned in 730AD). Theodora's husband was an iconoclast (a destroyer of icons). After his death, Theodora venerated an icon of the Theotokos in front of Patriarch Methodios. The other faithful in the church did the same, venerating all the icons, considering them to be representations of their original elements, not idols. Theodora prayed to God to forgive her husband during the first week of the Great Fast; and on the First Sunday of the Fast, she led the way in hanging up the icons to adorn the churches.

In remembrance of this event, the church established the 1st Sunday of the Great Fast for all right-believers (the meaning of the word "orthodox") to have a Procession of the Holy Icons.

A wonderful, short, and easy-to-understand article about this Icon Controversy is at OrthodoxWiki (along with lots of great things in the Orthodox Church!): [https://orthodoxwiki.org/Seventh Ecumenical Council](https://orthodoxwiki.org/Seventh_Ecumenical_Council). Also at this same site, is a short explanation of the Sunday of Orthodoxy which is sometimes called the Triumph of Orthodoxy: [https://orthodoxwiki.org/Sunday of Orthodoxy](https://orthodoxwiki.org/Sunday_of_Orthodoxy).

The Synodikon of Orthodoxy

As the prophets beheld, as the Apostles have taught, as the Church has received, as the teachers have dogmatized, as the Universe has agreed, as Grace has shown forth, as Truth has revealed, as falsehood has been dissolved, as Wisdom has presented, as Christ awarded: thus we declare, thus we assert, thus we preach Christ our true God, and honor His saints in words, in writings, in thoughts, in sacrifices, in churches, in Holy Icons; on the one hand worshipping and reverencing Christ as God and Lord; and on the other hand honoring His saints as true servants of the same Lord of all and accordingly offering them veneration.

(Louder) **This is the Faith of the Apostles, this is the Faith of the Fathers, this is the Faith of the Orthodox, and this is the Faith which has established the Universe!**

صلاة أحد الأرثوذكسية

إننا كما عاينت الأنبياء، كما علمت الرسل، كما تسلمت الكنيسة، كما اعتقد المعلمون، كما اتفقت آراء المسكونة معاً، كما أشرقت النعمة، كما اتضح الحق، كما انطرد الكذب، كما استعلنت الحكمة، كما جاد المسيح بالجوائز، هكذا نعتقد، هكذا نتكلم، هكذا نكرز، مُنذرين بالمسيح إلهنا المسكونة "الحقيقي، ونكرم قديسيه، بالأقوال والتأليفات والمعاني والضحايا والهيكل والأيقونات. فأما المسيح فنسجد له كسيد واله، ونعبده، وأما القديسون فنكرمهم لأجل السيد العمومي، كخدام له أخصاء، ونقدم لهم السجود بحسب النسبة.

"هذا إيمان الرسل، هذا إيمان الأباء، هذا إيمان المستقيمي الرأي، هذا الإيمان قد وطد.

The Prokeimenon بروكيمنن

(Tone 7) – Thrice

Who is so great a God as our God?
Thou art our God, who doest
wonders.

أيُّ إلهٍ عظيمٍ مثلُ إلهنا؟
أنتُ هوَ اللهُ الصانعُ العجائبِ وحدكُ.

The Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint

Assumption (Greek) 2245 Baldwin Road ❖ Grand Blanc, MI 48439 ❖ 810-771-4611
St. George (Antiochian) 5191 Lennon Road ❖ Flint, MI 48507 ❖ 810-732-0720
St. Mary Magdalene (OCA) 2439 South Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1701
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

**Come, Join Us for this Lenten Retreat by
Archbishop Alexander and Bishop Anthony!**

The Cross of Christ – The Scriptures and the Priesthood



Bishop Anthony
Diocese of Toledo & the Midwest
Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese

**Saturday
March 18, 2023**

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
2143 S Center Rd • Burton, MI**

**Please RSVP by March 13 to
(810) 744-0070 or
stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com**



Archbishop Alexander
Bulgarian Diocese of Toledo
Orthodox Church in America

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|--------------------|--|
| 10 am | Divine Liturgy |
| 11:30 am | Lunch (free will offering) |
| 12 pm | Registration |
| 12:30 pm | The Scriptures and the Cross – Archbishop Alexander |
| 1:30 pm | Break |
| 1:45 pm | The Priesthood and the Cross – Bishop Anthony |
| 2:45 pm | Break |
| 3 - 3:30 pm | Questions and Answers |
| 4 pm | Cathedral Vigil followed by Confessions |

Guest Speakers

Archbishop Alexander was consecrated on May 5, 2012 as bishop of the Bulgarian Diocese of Toledo (OCA) and on March 30, 2016 was elected to his second see of Dallas and the Diocese of the South (OCA).

Bishop Anthony was consecrated on December 11, 2011 as Auxiliary of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest, for the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in North America - A Vision of Orthodox Unity



**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Prot. no.: PV075/2023

The Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 5, 2023

Beloved Brother Hierarchs, reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful,

Greetings to you in the Name of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ.

Each year we ask for your support of our archdiocesan seminarians on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, as we celebrate those who have defended and preserved the Orthodox Faith over the centuries. The Church continues and prospers from generation to generation because of those who answer God's call and dedicate their lives to His service. In particular, its life and growth depend on men and their families responding when God calls them to the holy priesthood, so that they might care for the souls of the faithful and lead our parishes in worship and outreach.

The ability of these men to fulfill their calling depends on their being properly prepared. In the sacred scriptures, the Prophet Samuel needed Eli's help to recognize the Lord's voice calling him. The Prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah needed to experience divine grace touching their lips before they could proclaim the word of God. The holy apostles needed to spend years with our Lord Jesus Christ—following Him, listening to Him, and observing Him—before they received the Spirit and went forth to preach. Likewise, those called to the priesthood need an opportunity to step away from worldly responsibilities and immerse themselves in the Church's worship, ethos, and teaching at seminary.

To do this, they need your financial help. When they come to seminary in order to prepare to serve you—to bring the grace of God into your parish, your family, and your soul—they leave behind the secular work that supports them and their families. As an archdiocese, we have always come together to shoulder the financial burden of this preparation by providing scholarships and housing aid. Your generous gifts today will thus make their future service possible.

With prayers for all of you as we continue along the life-giving path of the Great Fast toward the glorious day of Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

✠Metropolitan ANTONIOS

Metropolitan of Zahle, Baalbek, and Dependencies
Patriarchal Vicar of New York and All North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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